New Post of Social Welfare Worker

Mrs. Muriel E. Johnson, child welfare worker of the Norfolk County Department of Public Welfare since September, 1941, has tendered her resignation prior to taking up new duties as superintendent of the Maryland Training School for Colored Girls, at Glen Burnie, near Baltimore. After an excellent record in social welfare work in the county, Mrs. Johnson will go to her new post February 18.

Mrs. Muriel E. Johnson Appointed Superintendent of Md. School

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

PORTSMOUTH —Mrs. Muriel E. Johnson, child welfare worker in the Norfolk County Department of Public Welfare since 1941, will resign her position to accept a new post as superintendent of the Maryland Training School for Colored Girls, near Baltimore, it was announced this week.

After an excellent record in social welfare work in the county, Mrs. Johnson plans to take up her new duties Feb. 18. The Maryland Training School for Girls is operated under the Department of Public Welfare in Maryland.

She succeeds Mrs. Sadye D. George, first superintendent of the institution who served for 12 years, resigning last August 1. The appointment came for Mrs. Johnson after a competitive examination held in Baltimore Dec. 28.

110 CASES

Joining the Norfolk County staff, Mrs. Johnson worked with dependent, neglected or delinquent children and those who were physically or mentally handicapped. At present there are 110 cases in the county which fall into one or more of these categories.

Many children have been placed for adoption and several are on probation from the juvenile court. Still others are returnees from Industrial schools.

Mrs. Johnson is a graduate of Virginia Union University and has received graduate training in social work at Atlanta University School of Social Work; New York School of Social Work; and the School of Social Service Administration, University of Chicago.

FORMER POSITIONS

Mrs. Johnson spent several years as a teacher in the public schools of North Carolina and Virginia. She held positions as social worker at the Virginia Industrial School for Girls; Hanover Industrial School for Boys; the colored Orphanage, Oxford, N. C.; and Friends Association for Colored Children, Richmond.

Mrs. Johnson holds membership in the National Conference of Social Workers; the League for Planned Parenthood; and the Virginia Conference of Social Work.

She is former vice president and present member of the program committee of the Hampton Roads Chapter of the Virginia Federation of Social Workers; president of the Middle Atlantic Conference of Social Work; member of the American Association of Social Workers; president and founder of the Norfolk-Portsmouth Social Workers' Round Table.

ACTIVE WORKER

Mrs. Johnson is former chairman of the seal sales committee of the Negro Auxiliary of the Norfolk County Tuberculosis Association; secretary of the Portsmouth Woman's Council of Clubs; member and former chairman of the operating committee of the USO Club, 307 Chestnut street; member of the community committee of the Tidewater Area Council of Girl Scouts; member of the Business and Professional Women's Club of the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA, Norfolk; member of the College Women's Club; chairman of the membership drive of the NAACP; former president of the Beta Pi Sigma Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; chairman of the Girl Scout Troop Committee of Zion Baptist Church; and member of the Arcadia Heights Civic league to the Central Civic Committee.

1-26-46

Mrs. Johnson goes to her new position in Maryland with high recommendations from officials and staff workers of the Norfolk County Department of Public Welfare, including Superintendent W. L. Murphy.

20 Hurt in Racial Violence at Calif. Industrial School

Afro American Sat 5-11-46
Baltimore, Md.

IONE, Calif. — Eighteen young inmates, in addition to two school officials, were cut and bruised in a riot involving members of the group and persons of Mexican descent at the Preston State School of Industry here last week.

Violent fighting between the inmates broke out anew on Monday morning after a half-hour mess hall uproar Sunday night in which several youths were injured, it was learned.

About 50 youths engaged in the Sunday night fight, when they used heavy metal trays as weapons. It was broken up by W. D. Taylor, white supervisor, and George Siler, bakery instructor, who received minor injuries, and the boys were immediately confined to quarters.

Breakfast Under Surveillance

Released under surveillance the next morning, they began violently fighting again, this time using garden tools, racks, and clubs as weapons. Amador County Sheriff's deputies and state highway patrolmen quelled the disorder and sent several youths, ringleaders, to the county jail.

Jail 5-11-46

School Overcrowded

"The ill feeling between the groups has been brewing for some time, and the ring leaders are from a group of incorrigibles, who should not be in the overcrowded training school," Robert V. Chandler, white, the superintendent declared.

Strong Racial Feeling

"The racial feeling has been most apparent among Mexicans and colored committed from Los Angeles," he stated. Names of the ring leaders were not available.

School Houses 600

The Preston School of Industry, which houses 600 boys, is a correctional institution for juvenile criminals. Mr. Chandler said the more hardened youths were meant to be sent to a new institution at Lancaster, but that no transfers had been possible in seven months.

About ten per cent of the total inmates of the school are colored, and about thirty per cent are Mexican.

IONE, Calif., April 29—Eighteen young inmates of the Preston State School of Industry and two school employes were cut and bruised today during a riot involving Negroes and persons of Mexican descent. Robert V. Chandler, the school's superintendent, reported no serious injuries but considerable damage to school property.

As the result of a flareup last night in the dining hall, during which fists and heavy metal trays were used as weapons, Mr. Chandler separated the combatants at breakfast this morning. He sent the Negroes into the dining hall first.

June 4-20-46

As they entered the room, he said, they broke doors and windows. Some of the Mexicans broke through a door and engaged in a melee with the Negro youths in the school yard.

When the fighting, with garden tools, sticks and stones, got out of hand, deputies under Sheriff Lucot of Amador County and a corps of Highway Patrolmen were called. Several of the rioters were taken to the county jail at Jackson.

Macon, Ga., News
October 4, 1946

GEORGIA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NEGRO GIRLS

A courtesy inspection of this State Training School was made and it was found to be in excellent condition and under good management. It was further found that a new wing has been erected, creating one-third more floor space. And that this new addition is not in use because of lack of funds.

We therefore recommend that our state senator and representatives be instructed to work and vote for proper legislation to utilize the full facilities. We further recommend that a copy of this report be sent by the Clerk of the Court to the Governor of the State for his consideration.

20 HURT IN SCHOOL RIOT

N.Y. Post Times, N.Y.

Inmates of Coast Institution Smash Doors in Brawl

June 4-20-46

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Whitehead expressed a willingness to restore the fund, in view of the small amount, and agreed to take up the matter at the next commission meeting.

Mrs. Jones explained that at the time little was done at the home because the superintendent had resigned and Judge W. S. Criswell of the Juvenile Court did not believe it wise to send any more girls there. The home recently has been in the process of reorganization. Mrs. Jones informed the commissioners that at the present time the home has a capacity of 18 girls, are there, she stated. Without such a home, there is no place to which delinquent negro girls can be sent.

Others urging that the funds be restored included Mrs. C. Daniel, representing the Presbyterian Women; Mrs. Henry Havens, representing the Duval County Council of Parents and Teachers; Mrs. Ray V. Sowers, representing the Woman's Club; fourth vice president of the Woman's Club; the Board of Managers for operating the Negro uplift leader. A letter from the Council of Social Agencies expressed regret that the fund had been omitted and favored its immediate restoration. P. W. Fisher, assistant secretary of the budget commission, said $5,565 had been requested by the Board of Managers for operating the home during the next year, which was approximately $200 less than for the current year.

Commissioners Jackson and

Negro Home Funds Sought

The Florida Times-Union
Jacksonville, Fla.

Budget Group in Favor of Restoring Allotment.

A move to obtain funds with which to continue the operation of the County Parental Home for negro girls was made yesterday at a meeting of the Duval County Budget Commission.

The meeting was not official due to lack of a quorum, but Chairman John O. Jackson and Budget Commissioner Harold W. Whitehead listened to a delegation, headed by Mrs. Walter S. Jones, chairman of the Parental Home Board of Managers, urge funds for the home, operated at 1918 Jefferson Street, were eliminated from the budget, although appropriations were made for the homes for white girls and for negro boys.

It was indicated that the appropriation was omitted because the budget group was of the opinion activities at the home had been virtually abolished and only three girls were there.

Thurs. 8-15-46
Sun. 8-25-46

Jim Crow Seen At Prison Farm

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 9-21-46

By MAJOR ROBINSON
Defender New York Bureau

GOSHEN, N.Y.—The discrimination and inefficiency that marks life at New Hampton Farms, a reformatory for first offenders, showed through the camouflage intended to conceal it from a party of newspapermen visiting the institution last week.

The journalists were invited to the institution by Pete F. Amoroso, head commissioner of the New York City Department of Correction, who was anxious to prove that charges of racial discrimination at the reformatory made by State Commissioner Grant Reynolds were unfounded.

Observations made by this correspondent seemed to confirm Commissioner Reynolds' allegations. Some of them follow:

Inmates 58 Per Cent Negro

Ordinarily inmates, 58 per cent of whom are Negro, are segregated racially in work and play, though on the day of the visit all activities were mixed.

Certain "dirty" jobs such as working on the coal pile, on the farm and at the greenhouse are always assigned to Negroes, never to whites.

Other jobs such as messengers, houseboys, and other light duties are invariably given white inmates.

Evidences of inefficiency and abuse, noted during tour of newspapermen who were chaperoned by Supt. Patrick Gallagher and Deputy Warden Edward Dross, follow:

Inmates told of the dreaded "roundhouse," a building near the gate, to which they are sometimes taken for disciplining with nightsticks.

The guards ordinarily armed with nightsticks were not carrying them the day of the tour.

Showers Rationed

Inmates are allowed to take showers only once a week, though the "dirty" work assigned to many of them makes a daily bath a must. Only one change of underwear a week is allowed, and outside clothing is changed only when they have been worn to shreds.

Water in the swimming pool was filthy and dirt was caked around the sides of the pool.

Deputy Warden Dross, who works as educational director, has had only one and half years of high school training.

The institution has no psychiatrist, or person qualified to handle the mental problems that surely exist.

There is no program of planned rehabilitation. Gallagher and Dross said they had no authority to institute any such program.

On the positive side of our report, we saw one Negro guard on the grounds.

Urge Changes In N.Y. Reformatory

Defender Chicago, Ill.

NEW YORK—Sweeping changes in the administration and program of the Hampton Farms Reformatory were recommended to Commissioner Peter F. Amorose by an inspection committee which was formed at the request of Dr. John H. Johnson, member of the Mayor's Committee on Unity.

Sat. 12-28-46

The report of the investigation grew out of charges made during the recent political campaign by Grant Reynolds, state commissioner of correction, that segregation of racial groups existed; inadequate programs were to be found at the reformatory, and that the personnel was incompetent. The investigation revealed that with relation to the charges of discrimination and segregation steps had already been taken to correct the situation.